AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments to the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents as follows:

Please cancel claims 26-29, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents.

1. (currently amended) A recombinant adenovirus that mediates enhanced gene transfer to primary tumor cells, wherein said adenovirus comprises a ~~fiber gene modified by homologous recombination between a plasmid comprising an adenovirus with a mutated fiber gene linearized at a nucleotide restriction site in the mutated fiber gene and a plasmid comprising a cDNA encoding the~~ modified fiber comprising a tripeptide having the sequence Arg-Gly-Asp (RGD) ~~into~~ in the HI loop domain of the fiber knob, wherein the tripeptide is inserted into a homogeneous serotype fiber.

2. (previously presented)The recombinant adenovirus of claim 1, wherein said adenovirus can achieve coxsackievirus and adenovirus receptor-independent gene transfer.

3. (original) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 1, wherein said adenovirus further comprises an additional modification to said fiber knob, thereby ablating the native tropism of said adenovirus.

4. (original) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 1, wherein said modified fiber knob retains its ability to trimerize and retain its native biosynthesis profile.

5-8. (cancelled)

9. (previously presented)The recombinant adenovirus of claim 1, wherein the adenoviral vector encoding said adenovirus further comprises a herpes simplex virus-thymidine kinase gene.

10. (cancelled)

11. (previously presented)A method of killing tumor cells in an individual comprising the steps of: injecting an effective amount of the recombinant adenovirus of claim 9 to the tumor in said individual; and treating said individual with ganciclovir.

12-15. (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) A method of increasing the ability of an adenovirus to transduce primary tumor cells *in vitro* or *ex vivo*, comprising the steps of: modifying the fiber

gene of said adenovirus ~~by homologous recombination between a plasmid comprising an adenovirus with a mutated fiber gene linearized at a nucleotide restriction site in the mutated fiber gene and a plasmid comprising a cDNA encoding the modified fiber~~ comprising introducing a tripeptide having the sequence Arg-Gly-Asp (RGD) into the HI loop domain of the fiber knob, wherein the tripeptide is inserted into a homogeneous serotype fiber, and introducing the adenovirus to primary tumor cells *in vitro* or *ex vivo*.

17-21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein tumor cells are selected from the group consisting of cancer ascite samples and primary tumor explants.

23. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein the adenoviral vector encoding said adenovirus further comprises a therapeutic gene.

24-29. (cancelled)

Please add the following new claims:

30. (new) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 1, wherein the adenovirus is an Ad5 adenovirus and the fiber knob is an Ad5 fiber knob.

31. (new) The method of claim 16, wherein the adenovirus is an Ad5 adenovirus and the fiber knob is an Ad5 fiber knob.